PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKETING DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DOCKET NO. 2005-243-WS

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING WATER AND WASTEWATER PERFORMANCE BONDS THAT ARE POSTED WITH THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA

On September 13, 2005, the Public Service Commission (the Commission) during its regularly scheduled weekly commission meeting voted to schedule a public hearing to address whether the Commission's regulations governing performance bonds filed by water and wastewater utilities with the Commission should be amended. One of the primary reasons for the Commission's ruling is to gather additional information from interested persons as to whether the Commission's water and wastewater performance bonds regulations need to be changed. 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-512.3 through 103-512.3.3 and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-712.3 through 103-712.3.3 govern bonds, sureties, and financial statements of wastewater and water utilities, respectively, that are governed by the Commission.

In addition to the above matter, the Commission will address the following issues:

- Quality and Service Standards for Water and Wastewater Companies
- Financial Viability of Water and Wastewater Companies

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a hearing on the above matters has been scheduled to begin at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, March 9, 2006 before the Commission in the Commission's Hearing Room, Synergy Business Park, 101 Executive Center Drive, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter, as a Party of Record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, on or before **February 1**, **2006** and indicate the amount of time required for his/her presentation. Please include an email address for receipt of future Commission correspondence in the Petition to Intervene. *Please refer to Docket No. 2005-243-WS*.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Docketing Department at the address shown below, and the Office of Regulatory Staff at Post Office Box 11263, Columbia, South Carolina 29211, on or before **February 1, 2006**, and indicate the amount of time required for his/her presentation. *Please refer to Docket No. 2005-243-WS*.

Any person who wishes to be notified of any change in the hearing date, but does not wish to present testimony or be a party of record, may do so by notifying the Docketing Department in writing at the address shown below, on or before **February 1, 2006**. *Please refer to Docket No. 2005-243-WS*.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: Any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding <u>MUST</u> present such comments, in person, to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at 803-896-5100.

Public Service Commission of South Carolina Attn: Docketing Department Post Office Drawer 11649 Columbia, South Carolina 29210